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Bowling Green State University

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Wednesday

July 23, 2008
Volume 101, Issue 159
WWW.BGNEWS.COM

CAMPUS

Credit card firms, beware!

Congress is considering legislation that would make it harder for credit card firms to target college students | **Page 3**

Why so serious?

Film critic Aaron Helfferich declares "The Dark Knight" a "sophisticated crime drama with a stellar lineup of multi-layered characters" | **Page 6**

Who is the Batman?

A look back at the men who have played Batman and The Joker, and helped make those characters memorable to decades of audiences | **Page 6**

The freaks and geeks of Coney Island

Columnist Alison Kemp discusses how she would fit in the Coney Island Side Show | **Page 4**

What I did on my summer vacation

Eating cake and partaking in Lego battles are the ideal vacation activity for columnist Levi Joseph Wonder | **Page 4**

Bush wishes U.S. Olympians well

American athletes were given a send-off to Beijing by President Bush and told that "hopes and pride of millions of Americans" go with them | **Page 5**

SPORTS

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

What is an essential item for freshmen to have in their dorm rooms?



CHRISTOPHER FAIR,
Senior, Graphic Design

"A lockbox."

| **Page 4**

WEATHER

TODAY
Isolated T-Storms
High: 79, Low: 57

TOMORROW
Mostly Sunny
High: 82, Low: 60

Board of Trustees focus on new year

By **Tony Hunter**
Reporter

The Board of Trustees will have plenty of work to do this school year.

Executive Vice President Linda Dobb serves as Secretary to the Board and said the team is ready to handle the important issues at stake.

"There are a lot of decisions that our board will be asked to give approval to in this coming year along with the usual ones," Dobb said. "It's going to be a very important year."

The first priority of the Board will be selecting a new University president to replace the departing Sidney Ribeau.

During the year, the Board may be asked to approve some policy changes while also attending to a shaky budget due to low enrollment, Dobb said.

A University strategic plan designed to increase enrollment in the coming years will also be another main topic for discussion by the trustees.

However, before further progress can be made, Dobb said the University is waiting

"There are a lot of decisions that our board will be asked to give approval to ..."

Linda Dobb | Board secretary

for Governor Ted Strickland to appoint new trustees to the group, which is expected to happen within a couple of days.

University Student Government Vice President

Sundeep Mutgi said his staff will be working with Undergraduate Student Trustee Member Daniel Jacoby to make sure students are heard by the board when key decisions are made.

Mutgi said Jacoby has done a great job representing the undergraduates and expects him to be vocal about students' feelings on this year's decisions.

"Daniel has been extremely vocal to the board about what students want," Mutgi said. "He will be a hard one to replace. He

has been really great."

Like many people at the University, Junior Breana Smith said she was unaware of the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees and how their decisions directly affect students.

"I guess I kind of overlook some of the things they do," Smith said. "But I really like everything Bowling Green is doing."

Last year's Graduate Student Trustee Brady Gaskins said he was impressed with the other

See **TRUSTEES** | **Page 2**

Conference programs are a University tradition

By **Alexandria Clark**
Reporter

During the summer, students take classes to catch up on academic credits, work summer jobs to make extra money or just hang out with friends at the beach, but many high school students board school buses with suit cases to spend their summer at the University summer camps.

Each summer, conference programs hosts several camps that stay on campus overnight. This summer there are 70 camps, including youth, adult, athletic and music camps, and approximately 7,000 guests have stayed overnight.

The camps stay in residence halls, particularly Kreischer, Offenauer, Founders and Harshman.

Having summer camps on campus is an opportunity for both the students and the University.

Sara Smith, interim coordinator of conference programs, said

See **CAMPS** | **Page 2**

New Univ. blogging system means new route of communication

By **Angie Burdge**
Reporter

Due to the establishment of its own blogging system for the upcoming school year, the University will soon have a new way for professors and students to communicate.

The new system, which uses the WordPress Multi-User platform, was developed by Terence Armentano from the Center for Online and Blended Learning.

However, for some faculty members, blogging is nothing new.

The Center of Teaching and Learning has been discussing the "significance to teaching, learning and the integration of technology in the classroom" in their blog since November 2006, said graduate assistant Matthew Caire.

Caire said the purpose of the center's blog is to promote dialogue on teaching and learning issues in higher education among University faculty, staff and graduate students.

This includes facilitating discussions on the latest research and developments, as well as informing University faculty of current workshops, learning community activities and other related events.

Anthony Fontana, an art instructor who has been blogging since 2001, maintains several educational and personal blogs.

For Fontana, blogging is an "easy way to publicly express your opinion, exhibit your recent work or research, or update interested parties on key happenings in your area of interest or study."

Fontana's personal blog contains articles, pictures, videos, links to his art, comics and Second Life related interests. Maintaining and developing relationships with the public is important to him as an artist.

"I am a big fan of technology and art blogs and I would like to contribute back to those communities with my own findings, even if that just means posting a new video from YouTube," Fontana said.

Some Departments at the University, such as the English Department, also have their own blog.

"Great Expectations" is a blog designed to serve as a resource for learning about department, campus and community events. It also acts as a forum for celebrating faculty, staff and student accomplishments across department programs.

Kristine Blair, professor and chair of the English Department, said the department created its blog after a recommendation from their Undergraduate Committee.

"It is a way of reaching out to students and to create a sense of community and information

See **BLOGGING** | **Page 2**

BGSU professor lectures about war in film in New York

By **Jessica Spies**
Reporter



Brett Holden
Lectured at Chautauqua Institute

Not many professors get the chance to teach at Chautauqua Institution in New York, but a University lecturer, Brett Holden, taught a course at the Institution the week of July 7 through July 11. Of 1,500 applicants, 300 instructors were chosen, Holden said.

The Institution is a non-profit organization that is similar to a community that has performance venues, golf, tennis and educational and recreational facilities.

The Institution is set up similar to an amusement park; visitors have to pay a fee to enter and can participate in most events on the grounds.

"It's like Cedar Point for the mind," Holden said.

Holden, a literature fan, was excited to be at the Institution with author Joyce Carol Oates and cartoonist Gary Trudeau who spoke the week of July 7.

The students in Holden's class, Witnessing War: The 20th/21st Century Soldier Experience in Literature and Film, included a Vietnam veteran, a Korean War veteran and a pathologist.

Some of the movies that Holden used as examples for his weeklong class were "Saving Private Ryan," "Jarhead" and "Full Metal Jacket."

There is not one Hollywood movie that is realistic, he said.

"It's impossible to capture the real essence of war but civilians crave information about war," Holden said. "Civilians

go to the theater and expect to get an experience from that type of event."

However, movie-goers only get an incomplete version or complete misperception of the soldiers' experience, Holden said.

Holden has plenty of experience in the classroom as he has been teaching classes at the university since 1993. He is currently a lecturer but will be moving onto a tenure track as an assistant professor of film studies this fall.

Holden's teaching style is interactive and what some may call the Socratic method because he uses a lot of questioning and small groups for discussion, said Bob Midden, who was the director of Chapman Community where Holden was a faculty member. Holden draws on popular culture and knowledge of students' lives to help them understand what he's teaching, Midden said.

Caitlin Keelor, who was a teaching assistant for RESC 200 for Holden, described Holden as "intriguing."

"He reels everyone in; the passion he has is contagious," Keelor said.

See **LECTURER** | **Page 2**

Waiting and waiting for 'Dark Knight' | SEE PAGE 2



RACHEL RADWANSKI | THE BG NEWS

THE LONG AND WINDING QUEUE: Kyle Tonjes (left), Josh Lucas (center), and Josh Middleton (right) wait in line for the 12:30 a.m. premiere showing of *The Dark Knight* at the Woodland Mall. They got in line at 10:15, and by the time Cinemark employees let fans in at 11:45 p.m. the line had reached Steve & Barry's and had snaked almost out the door.

BLOTTER FRIDAY

12:05 A.M.

Sarah A. Kersey, 20, of Solon, Ohio, was arrested for public urination.

12:19 A.M.

Ezra C. Warren, 22, of Bowling Green, was arrested for assault.

1:28 A.M.

Alyssa B. Morelock, 19, of Gibsonburg, Ohio, was cited for prohibited acts.

1:38 A.M.

Christine L. Gurgul, 21, of Sagamore Hills, Ohio, was cited for obstructing official business, and Melinda H. Gurgul, 23, of Sagamore Hills, and Blanca A. Chavez, 23, of Bowling Green, were arrested for disorderly conduct.

1:51 A.M.

Stephanie C. Szendrey, 21, of Bowling Green, was arrested for disorderly conduct.

2:11 A.M.

Brandon P. Abdul Hakim, 22, of Cleveland, was cited for public urination.

10:16 P.M.

Justin Shane Salaz, 18, of Portage, Ohio, was cited for underage possession of alcohol.

11:25 P.M.

Nathan A. Schrickel, 22, of Fremont, was cited for public urination.

11:54 P.M.

Alyssa M. Simon, 19, of Carey, was arrested for underage under the influence, and Eric A. Mulholland, 29, of Bowling Green, Dori J. Krejci, 28, of Bowling Green, and Brittany L. Reinhart, 21, of Findlay, were arrested for open container.

SATURDAY

1:38 A.M.

Anthony J. Nero, 23, of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, was arrested for disorderly conduct.

1:56 A.M.

Matthew J. Calhoun, 24, of Bowling Green, was cited for public urination.

2:51 A.M.

Jordan A. Szymanski, 22, of Bowling Green, was cited for public urination.

SUNDAY

12:30 A.M.

Jon Michael Gofus, 24, of Bowling Green, was cited for open container.

1:18 A.M.

Adam W. Gruber, 19, of Fremont, was arrested for disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, and underage under the influence.

2:02 A.M.

Eulalio Matavelasco, 25, of Bowling Green, was cited for public urination.

2:33 A.M.

Gabriel Ballesteros, 21, of Bowling Green, was arrested for disorderly conduct.

2:35 A.M.

Nathan S. Gresser-Macgregor, 20, of Bowling Green, was cited for underage under the influence of alcohol.

3:05 A.M.

John J. Szymanski Jr., 20, of Bowling Green, Erin Ashley Christian, of Aurora, Ill., and Amber R. Pouk, 19, of Oswego, Ill., were cited for disorderly conduct.

4:24 A.M.

Jon Michael Gofus, 24, of Bowling Green, was arrested for disorderly conduct.

8:02 P.M.

Ahshantel N. Cobb, 19, of Bowling Green, and Lisa Marie Miller, 49, of Bowling Green, were cited for disorderly conduct.

9:27 P.M.

Matthew Alan Wynkoop, 34, of Bowling Green, was arrested for criminal damaging.

MONDAY

12:30 A.M.

Tyler Ross Mikolajczak, 21, of Waterville, Ohio, Joseph Francis McEwan, 24, of Bowling Green, Jacqueline M. Jacoby, 22, of Toledo, Katie M. Bailey, 22, of Painesville, Ohio, Lauren E. Gearhart, 23, of Bowling Green, Jeffrey M. Wynn, 22, of Toledo, were cited for criminal trespassing.

1:05 A.M.

Jack A. Schemenauer, 19, of Luckey, Ohio, Bradley R. Walker, 19, of Luckey, and Cortney M. Redman, 19, of Bowling Green, were arrested for criminal trespassing.

7:39 P.M.

Philip Edward Jones, 20, and Brian S. Hickie, 24, of Bowling Green, were cited for disorderly conduct.

TUESDAY

12:22 A.M.

Jessica L. Doriot, 19, of Toledo, was cited for prohibited acts.

3:46 A.M.

Timothy J. Rhodes, 23, of Fremont, was arrested for assault.

ONLINE: Go to bgnews.com for the complete blotter list.

LECTURER

From Page 1

By being in RESC 200, Keeler was on the Veteran Assessment and Service Team on campus, a group created by Holden. Through VAST, Holden has blended learning and community service. Those involved in VAST study the veteran experience and take part in fundraisers and letter writing campaigns.

Holden's drive to teach a class concerning the soldier experience has been with him ever since he was a child, he said. He remembers his grandmother, who had two children in World War I, telling him stories about the war and being deeply affected by it even though she did not go through the soldier experience.

"When you send someone to

war, you send their whole family," Holden said. "There is a very big difference between what your average civilian thinks happens during war and what actually occurs," Holden said.

"Because of those often inaccurate beliefs, we judge or make perceptions about those we have deployed, we have to not do that. We have to go in with more of an educated opinion."

Now that Holden is back from Chautauqua, he hopes to continue his long-term goal of educating the general public about the soldier experience.

"[I want] individuals [to] understand the effects of war on the human mind and body and also understand what it means when we build a war," Holden said. "It's not just the statistics and figures."

GOING A LITTLE BATTY



RACHEL RADWANSKI | THE BG NEWS

BAT-TASTIC: Batman (DJ Gierhart), Catwoman (Leigh Yenrick), and Scarecrow (Sean Burns) wait in line at the Woodland Mall to see the 12:45 a.m. showing of "The Dark Knight" the night it premiered. "The Dark Knight" made a box office record accumulating \$155.34 million its opening weekend. Gierhart said they had got in line at 11 p.m. to wait for the record-breaking film. See page 6 for more coverage.

CAMPS

From Page 1

the summer brings a lot of advantages to the University for potential students and increases revenue.

"To have these camps here during the summer serves as a great recruitment tool for potential incoming students," Smith said. "There are many high school students, that are college bound students, who come here with the camps and it allows them to experience college life."

Smith said there is also an opportunity for the college bound students to experience college life even if they don't plan to attend the University.

"Being on an actual school campus, while classes are in session and the college students are working on campus, serves as a great example for the high school students to see what they need to prepare for college and what to expect for the future," she said.

There are various camps that stay on campus hosted by

"Being on an actual school campus, while classes are in session and the college students are working ... serves as a great example for the high school students ..."

Sara Smith | Interim Coordinator of Conference Programs

University departments.

"Many different departments host various camps during the summer, including the athletic department hosting soccer, football and hockey camps; and the music department hosting several camps such as piano, brass, vocal and sax camps," she said.

Other camps are New Bible Retreat, Alumni & Friends Reunion, Presidential Leadership Academy and AIMS.

There are also camps that bring in over 100 students and have been coming to the University for over 10 years.

"The Buckeye Boys State brings at least 1,200 students in and they stay for 10 days," Smith said. "This group has been coming here for the last 31 years and they bring incoming junior

boys, from high school, to learn about state programs."

Another camp, which brings in at least 1,000 students, is the cheerleading camps and have been coming to the University for the last 10 years.

In addition, conference programs hires approximately 20 conference staff and four to five team leaders during the summer to assist with conferences and camps.

Some of the responsibilities of the staff include working at the residence hall front desks, helping check-ins and check-outs of conference participants and preparing buildings for conference usage.

Senior Christopher Weinland is a summer conference program team member, and said it's a great opportunity for both

TRUSTEES

From Page 1

board members' genuine concern for the students.

"We always talked about some type of student success initiative in one degree or another," Gaskins said. "The trustees were very interested in what we have to say and how the students were feeling about a variety of issues."

For now, Dobb said the trustees will continue to listen to students, parents, and other community members in order to make the best decisions possible for the upcoming school year.

"[The Trustees] are very committed to being in tune to the University and in tune with what the State wants for the University; and moving us forward," Dobb said.

the high school students and the college students who get a chance to work with the camps.

"Working conference programs brings together people from all different majors; you get a great chance to interact with all kinds of different people," Weinland said. "And it's an excellent learning experience for the students before they go to college."

Some students, who have taken part in camps, see an advantage to staying on a college campus while classes are in session.

Nicole Krueger, sophomore, is a Presidential Leadership Academy resident mentor, and said she stayed on campus for five weeks before her freshman year started through PLA.

"It was a great experience because I had a chance to get to know the campus and where specific buildings were at before all the students came back in August," Krueger said. "Staying here in the summer also gives students the chance to make friends and just feel comfortable in their new home for the next couple of months."

BLOGGING

From Page 1

sharing," Blair said. "We see the blog, along with our Facebook group as an alumni outreach and new student recruitment tool."

The blog is certainly achieving these goals, with its statistics showing that there are both national and international visits to the site.

For General Studies Writing instructor Amanda McGuire Rzicznek, blogs also serve an educational purpose.

"I wanted a point of reference for my students, my colleagues and myself and a blog seemed the most logical choice for sharing information and discussing ideas," McGuire Rzicznek said.

Not only are blogs helpful to

"I wanted a point of reference for my students, my colleagues and myself and a blog seemed the most logical choice for sharing information and discussing ideas."

Amanda McGuire Rzicznek | University professor

the audience they are aimed at, but each contributor takes something away from writing about their experiences.

"Personally I get time to reflect on my teaching which helps me figure out more accessible means to get necessary information to my students and it allows me to begin a conversation about teaching with my colleagues," McGuire Rzicznek said.

Reading others' blogs has inspired some faculty members to write about similar topics in response on their own Web page.

This is true of Fontana, citing Terence Armentano's blog as a campus favorite.

"His blog often leads me to discover many new things that may help me in the classroom. From there, I may end up writing about it on my own blog."

This relationship of community, give and take as well as mutual respect is what Fontana refers to as the "blogosphere," an interconnected network and community of people expressing, documenting and exhibiting information.

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Why did BGSU switch from semesters to quarters in the 1968-69 year?

- A. Switch was mandated by Ohio Board of Regents
- B. University responded to student vote
- C. University responded to faculty vote
- D. Allowed more time for harvesting crops

???

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Keeping an eye on credit card companies

Lawmakers seek to restrict credit card firms from targeting students as easily

By David Goldstein
MCT

WASHINGTON — Credit card companies beware: Congress is watching.

One proposed change that has triggered interest among lawmakers, particularly as the economy sours, would make it harder for college students to qualify for credit cards.

"It really is just too easy," said Christine Lindstrom, the director of the Higher Education Project at the nonpartisan Public Interest Research Group. "They will do anything to be the first card in college students' wallets. They don't do credit checks. They don't even know if students have income."

Companies often set up booths on college campuses and entice students with freebies such as T-shirts, sports caps, coupons for food and more, all in exchange for filling out an application.

Brett Thurman, a student government president at the University of Illinois at Chicago, told a congressional hearing last month that he walked into a restaurant near campus last fall and saw four laptop computers set up to process credit card applications.

A free sandwich was the reward. "Students are poor, so applying for a credit card with a \$2,000 credit limit is like winning the lottery for us," said an e-mail by Klassie Alcine, a student leader at the University of Missouri in Kansas City. "So they end up getting between 4-10 credit cards without blinking an eye."

Alcine said she received about five credit card offers every week.

Some companies have strict rules about signing up college students and make a strong effort to educate them about financial management.

A spokesman for the American Bankers Association could not be reached for comment.

Kenneth Clayton, a credit card official with the group, told lawmakers at last month's hearing that

"Students are poor, so applying for a credit card with a \$2,000 credit limit is like winning the lottery ..."

Klassie Alcine | Univ. of Missouri

while some students aren't responsible about their finances, most manage their credit card obligations well.

"Restricting access to this form of credit would result in great financial hardship for most card-holding college students and their families," he said.

However, that's just what two Missouri Democrats, Rep. Emanuel Cleaver and Sen. Claire McCaskill, hope to do. They have each worked in their respective chambers on legislation to tighten the rules.

Under their measures, students without jobs or the written approval of parents or guardians would have to be at least 21 before they could qualify for credit cards.

"You cannot sign up students who have no source of income," Cleaver said. "If you do, parents or some co-signer would have to guarantee that bill would be paid."

How widespread is credit card use among college students? How much are they in debt?

Pick your study.

According to a recent report from Student Monitor, a national syndicated market-research survey, 41 percent of college students have credit cards. Of them, 65 percent pay their entire bills every month. The average balance for those who don't is \$452.

Meanwhile, Demos, a nonpartisan public-policy group, found in a report this year that the average credit card debt among college students ages 18-24 increased 11 percent from 1989 to 2004. Nearly 20 percent were in "debt hardship," up from 12 percent in 1989.

PHOTO FROM WWW.SXCHU

Congress looks to take the mystery out of college costs

By Amanda Erickson
The Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON — Thirteen thousand dollars.

That's the average cost of a year of college for in-state students. Make it more than \$32,000 for those attending private schools.

But thanks to complicated financial aid formulas, what undergraduates really pay for their degree is a much more complex equation. Now Congress is trying to take the mystery out of the forever-ris-

ing costs of higher education by mandating that colleges provide students and their parents more information about how much the average student pays for school, what kind of tuition help they might be able to secure and which universities offer the best bang for the buck. Congress is also calling for an annual "blacklist" of schools with the steepest cost increases.

Critics wonder whether the measures will provide real financial relief or just create extra paperwork for colleges.

"A list that has the impression of a good guys list ... can make a modest difference," said Robert Shireman, president of the Institute for College Access and Success, an organization that researches ways to make college more attainable for students. But, he added, it probably would not by itself greatly reduce the financial burden many university graduates face.

The measure is now in conference committee as lawmakers seek to iron out the differences between House and Senate bills.

GET A LIFE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Some events taken from events.bgu.edu

8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Exhibit #13: "Now Art 2008"

Union Gallery Space

8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Muslim Student Association Prayer Room
204 Olscamp

9 a.m. - 11 p.m.

MCOYC Youth Conference
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School year - \$600.00 per month. One year - \$480.00 per month.

818 SEVENTH STREET

Furn. Or Unfurn. One Bath & Hall Vanity. School year - \$565.00 per month. One year - \$475.00 per month.

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840-850 SIXTH STREET

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Nathan A. Schrickel, 22, of Fremont, was cited for public urination.

11:54 P.M.

Alyssa M. Simon, 19, of Carey, was arrested for underage under the influence, and Eric A. Mullholand, 29, of Bowling Green, Don J. Krejci, 28, of Bowling Green, and Brittany L. Reinhart, 21, of Findlay, were arrested for open container.

SATURDAY

1:38 A.M.

Anthony J. Nero, 23, of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, was arrested for disorderly conduct.

1:56 A.M.

Matthew J. Calhoun, 24, of Bowling Green, was cited for public urination.

2:51 A.M.

Jordan A. Szymanski, 22, of Bowling Green, was cited for public urination.

SUNDAY

12:30 A.M.

Jon Michael Gofus, 24, of Bowling Green, was cited for open container.

1:18 A.M.

Adam W. Gruber, 19, of Fremont, was arrested for disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, and underage under the influence.

2:02 A.M.

Eulalio Matavelasco, 25, of Bowling Green, was cited for public urination.

2:33 A.M.

Gabriel Ballesteros, 21, of Bowling Green, was arrested for disorderly conduct.

2:35 A.M.

Nathan S. Gresser-Macgregor, 20, of Bowling Green, was cited for underage under the influence of alcohol.

3:05 A.M.

John J. Szymanski Jr., 20, of Bowling Green, Erin Ashley Christian, of Aurora, Ill., and Amber R. Pouk, 19, of Oswego, Ill., were cited for disorderly conduct.

4:24 A.M.

Jon Michael Gofus, 24, of Bowling Green, was arrested for disorderly conduct.

8:02 P.M.

Ahshantel N. Cobb, 19, of Bowling Green, and Lisa Marie Miller, 49, of Bowling Green, were cited for disorderly conduct.

9:27 P.M.

Matthew Alan Wynkoop, 34, of Bowling Green, was arrested for criminal damaging.

MONDAY

12:30 A.M.

Tyler Ross Mikolajczak, 21, of Waterville, Ohio, Joseph Francis McEwan, 24, of Bowling Green, Jacqueline M. Jacoby, 22, of Toledo, Katie M. Bailey, 22, of Painesville, Ohio, Lauren E. Gearhart, 23, of Bowling Green, Jeffrey M. Wynn, 22, of Toledo, were cited for criminal trespassing.

1:05 A.M.

Jack A. Schemenauer, 19, of Luckey, Ohio, Bradley R. Walker, 19, of Luckey, and Courtney M. Redman, 19, of Bowling Green, were arrested for criminal trespassing.

7:39 P.M.

Philip Edward Jones, 20, and Brian S. Hickie, 24, of Bowling Green, were cited for disorderly conduct.

TUESDAY

12:22 A.M.

Jessica L. Doriot, 19, of Toledo, was cited for prohibited acts.

3:46 A.M.

Timothy J. Rhodes, 23, of Fremont, was arrested for assault.

ONLINE: Go to bgnews.com for the complete blotter list.

LECTURER

From Page 1

By being in RESC 200, Keeler was on the Veteran Assessment and Service Team on campus, a group created by Holden. Through VAST, Holden has blended learning and community service. Those involved in VAST study the veteran experience and take part in fundraisers and letter writing campaigns.

Holden's drive to teach a class concerning the soldier experience has been with him ever since he was a child, he said. He remembers his grandmother, who had two children in World War I, telling him stories about the war and being deeply affected by it even though she did not go through the soldier experience.

"When you send someone to

war, you send their whole family," Holden said. "There is a very big difference between what your average civilian thinks happens during war and what actually occurs," Holden said.

"Because of those often inaccurate beliefs, we judge or make perceptions about those we have deployed, we have to not do that. We have to go in with more of an educated opinion."

Now that Holden is back from Chautauqua, he hopes to continue his long-term goal of educating the general public about the soldier experience.

"[I want] individuals [to] understand the effects of war on the human mind and body and also understand what it means when we build a war," Holden said. "It's not just the statistics and figures."

GOING A LITTLE BATTY



RACHEL RADWANSKI | THE BG NEWS

BAT-TASTIC: Batman (DJ Gierhart), Catwoman (Leigh Yerrick), and Scarecrow (Sean Burns) wait in line at the Woodland Mall to see the 12:45 a.m. showing of "The Dark Knight" the night in premiered. "The Dark Knight" made a box office record accumulating \$155.34 million its opening weekend. Gierhart said they had got in line at 11 p.m. to wait for the record-breaking film. See page 6 for more coverage.

CAMPS

From Page 1

the summer brings a lot of advantages to the University for potential students and increases revenue.

"To have these camps here during the summer serves as a great recruitment tool for potential incoming students," Smith said. "There are many high school students, that are college bound students, who come here with the camps and it allows them to experience college life."

Smith said there is also an opportunity for the college bound students to experience college life even if they don't plan to attend the University.

"Being on an actual school campus, while classes are in session and the college students are working on campus, serves as a great example for the high school students to see what they need to prepare for college and what to expect for the future," she said.

There are various camps that stay on campus hosted by

"Being on an actual school campus, while classes are in session and the college students are working ... serves as a great example for the high school students ..."

Sara Smith | Interim Coordinator of Conference Programs

University departments.

"Many different departments host various camps during the summer, including the athletic department hosting soccer, football and hockey camps; and the music department hosting several camps such as piano, brass, vocal and sax camps," she said.

Other camps are New Bible Retreat, Alumni & Friends Reunion, Presidential Leadership Academy and AIMS.

There are also camps that bring in over 100 students and have been coming to the University for over 10 years.

"The Buckeye Boys State brings at least 1,200 students in and they stay for 10 days," Smith said. "This group has been coming here for the last 31 years and they bring incoming junior

boys, from high school, to learn about state programs."

Another camp, which brings in at least 1,000 students, is the cheerleading camps and have been coming to the University for the last 10 years.

In addition, conference programs hires approximately 20 conference staff and four to five team leaders during the summer to assist with conferences and camps.

Some of the responsibilities of the staff include working at the residence hall front desks, helping check-ins and check-outs of conference participants and preparing buildings for conference usage.

Senior Christopher Weinland is a summer conference program team member, and said it's a great opportunity for both

TRUSTEES

From Page 1

board members' genuine concern for the students.

"We always talked about some type of student success initiative in one degree or another," Gaskins said. "The trustees were very interested in what we have to say and how the students were feeling about a variety of issues."

For now, Dobb said the trustees will continue to listen to students, parents, and other community members in order to make the best decisions possible for the upcoming school year.

"[The Trustees] are very committed to being in tune to the University and in tune with what the State wants for the University; and moving us forward," Dobb said.

the high school students and the college students who get a chance to work with the camps.

"Working conference programs brings together people from all different majors; you get a great chance to interact with all kinds of different people," Weinland said. "And it's an excellent learning experience for the students before they go to college."

Some students, who have taken part in camps, see an advantage to staying on a college campus while classes are in session.

Nicole Krueger, sophomore, is a Presidential Leadership Academy resident mentor, and said she stayed on campus for five weeks before her freshman year started through PLA.

"It was a great experience because I had a chance to get to know the campus and where specific buildings were at before all the students came back in August," Krueger said. "Staying here in the summer also gives students the chance to make friends and just feel comfortable in their new home for the next couple of months."

BLOGGING

From Page 1

sharing," Blair said. "We see the blog, along with our Facebook group as an alumni outreach and new student recruitment tool."

The blog is certainly achieving these goals, with its statistics showing that there are both national and international visits to the site.

For General Studies Writing instructor Amanda McGuire Rzicznek, blogs also serve an educational purpose.

"I wanted a point of reference for my students, my colleagues and myself and a blog seemed the most logical choice for sharing information and discussing ideas," McGuire Rzicznek said.

Not only are blogs helpful to

"I wanted a point of reference for my students, my colleagues and myself and a blog seemed the most logical choice for sharing information and discussing ideas."

Amanda McGuire Rzicznek | University professor

the audience they are aimed at, but each contributor takes something away from writing about their experiences.

"Personally I get time to reflect on my teaching which helps me figure out more accessible means to get necessary information to my students and it allows me to begin a conversation about teaching with my colleagues," McGuire Rzicznek said.

Reading others' blogs has inspired some faculty members to write about similar topics in response on their own Web page.

This is true of Fontana, citing Terence Armentano's blog as a campus favorite.

"His blog often leads me to discover many new things that may help me in the classroom. From there, I may end up writing about it on my own blog."

This relationship of community, give and take as well as mutual respect is what Fontana refers to as the "blogosphere," an interconnected network and community of people expressing, documenting and exhibiting information.

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Why did BGSU switch from semesters to quarters in the 1968-69 year?

- A. Switch was mandated by Ohio Board of Regents
- B. University responded to student vote
- C. University responded to faculty vote
- D. Allowed more time for harvesting crops

???

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Keeping an eye on credit card companies

Lawmakers seek to restrict credit card firms from targeting students as easily

By David Goldstein
MCT

WASHINGTON — Credit card companies beware: Congress is watching.

One proposed change that has triggered interest among lawmakers, particularly as the economy sours, would make it harder for college students to qualify for credit cards.

"It really is just too easy," said Christine Lindstrom, the director of the Higher Education Project at the nonpartisan Public Interest Research Group. "They will do anything to be the first card in college students' wallets. They don't do credit checks. They don't even know if students have income."

Companies often set up booths on college campuses and entice students with freebies such as T-shirts, sports caps, coupons for food and more, all in exchange for filling out an application.

Brett Thurman, a student government president at the University of Illinois at Chicago, told a congressional hearing last month that he walked into a restaurant near campus last fall and saw four laptop computers set up to process credit card applications.

A free sandwich was the reward. "Students are poor, so applying for a credit card with a \$2,000 credit limit is like winning the lottery for us," said an e-mail by Klassie Alcine, a student leader at the University of Missouri in Kansas City. "So they end up getting between 4-10 credit cards without blinking an eye."

Alcine said she received about five credit card offers every week.

Some companies have strict rules about signing up college students and make a strong effort to educate them about financial management.

A spokesman for the American Bankers Association could not be reached for comment.

Kenneth Clayton, a credit card official with the group, told lawmakers at last month's hearing that

"Students are poor, so applying for a credit card with a \$2,000 credit limit is like winning the lottery ..."

Klassie Alcine | Univ. of Missouri

while some students aren't responsible about their finances, most manage their credit card obligations well.

"Restricting access to this form of credit would result in great financial hardship for most cardholding college students and their families," he said.

However, that's just what two Missouri Democrats, Rep. Emanuel Cleaver and Sen. Claire McCaskill, hope to do. They have each worked in their respective chambers on legislation to tighten the rules.

Under their measures, students without jobs or the written approval of parents or guardians would have to be at least 21 before they could qualify for credit cards.

"You cannot sign up students who have no source of income," Cleaver said. "If you do, parents or some co-signer would have to guarantee that bill would be paid."

How widespread is credit card use among college students? How much are they in debt?

Pick your study.

According to a recent report from Student Monitor, a national syndicated market-research survey, 41 percent of college students have credit cards. Of them, 65 percent pay their entire bills every month. The average balance for those who don't is \$452.

Meanwhile, Demos, a nonpartisan public-policy group, found in a report this year that the average credit card debt among college students ages 18-24 increased 11 percent from 1989 to 2004. Nearly 20 percent were in "debt hardship," up from 12 percent in 1989.

(PHOTO FROM WWW.WSCS.EDU)

Congress looks to take the mystery out of college costs

By Amanda Erickson
The Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON — Thirteen thousand dollars.

That's the average cost of a year of college for in-state students. Make it more than \$32,000 for those attending private schools.

But thanks to complicated financial aid formulas, what undergraduates really pay for their degree is a much more complex equation. Now Congress is trying to take the mystery out of the forever-ris-

ing costs of higher education by mandating that colleges provide students and their parents more information about how much the average student pays for school, what kind of tuition help they might be able to secure and which universities offer the best bang for the buck. Congress is also calling for an annual "blacklist" of schools with the steepest cost increases.

Critics wonder whether the measures will provide real financial relief or just create extra paperwork for colleges.

"A list that has the impression of a good guys list ... can make a modest difference," said Robert Shireman, president of the Institute for College Access and Success, an organization that researches ways to make college more attainable for students. But, he added, it probably would not by itself greatly reduce the financial burden many university graduates face.

The measure is now in conference committee as lawmakers seek to iron out the differences between House and Senate bills.

GET A LIFE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Some events taken from events.bgsu.edu

8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Exhibit #13: "Now Art 2008"

Union Gallery Space

8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Muslim Student Association Prayer Room
204 Olscamp

9 a.m. - 11 p.m.

MCOYC Youth Conference
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818 SEVENTH STREET

Furn. Or Unfurn. One Bath & Hall Vanity. School year - \$565.00 per month. One year - \$475.00 per month.

724 S. COLLEGE DRIVE

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School year - \$565.00 per month. One year - \$475.00 per month.

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School year - \$590.00 per month. One year - \$490.00 per month.

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PEOPLE ON THE STREET

What is a freshman must-have for the upcoming school year?



"Shower shoes."

AMANDA WILHELM,
Senior,
Pre-Physical Therapy



"A mini-fridge."

KATE BUDAJI,
Junior,
Applied Health Science



"Whatever the student handbook says you can't have, or a teddy bear."

JOSH BENNER,
Senior,
Philosophy



"A television."

FRANK ORTIZ,
Junior,
Sports Management

VISIT US AT
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Have your own take on today's People On The Street? Or a suggestion for a question? Give us your feedback at bgnews.com.

Travelin' the Globe:

The amazing adventures of the side show



Alison Kemp
Columnist

"There's a lady who breathes fire and a lady who swallows swords."

BROOKLYN — New York City never ceases to amaze me.

This past weekend, my roommate and I decided we should make a trip to Coney Island, in light of the potential changes. I made my first pilgrimage there earlier in the summer, but by the time my friends and I got to the beach, the sky turned cloudy and began to rain shortly thereafter.

This time, the sun never stopped beating down on us.

We started our experience at the Coney Island Side Show. This gem was well worth our \$10. You can stay as long as you want, which means you can watch the show as many times as you want, but I'm not sure why someone would really want to do that. Coney Island is seedy, and this show fits right in.

There once not only has a mouse-trap snap shut on his tongue, but

he also hammers a nail and drills a bit into one of his nostrils. There's a lady who breathes fire and a lady who swallows swords.

These 45 minutes of cringing and not wanting to watch (the nail and drill were the only things that creeped me out) were like none I have ever had before.

When we got to the beach, I was shocked again by the number of people who were spending the day at Coney Island.

There were thousands and thousands of brightly colored umbrellas dotting the sand. There were coolers and radios. There was laughter and singing and dancing.

The noise was so loud that we couldn't even hear the waves crashing into the shore from our towels.

We had hot dogs from Nathan's

Famous for dinner and took a walk down the boardwalk.

Once again, I noticed another "only in New York" experience. There was a game that was advertising live bait. I think it was called Shoot a Human.

It was hard to see because of the crowd it was attracting, but you could pay to shoot a gun at a guy running around with a shield.

We moved on, stopping again for ice cream (perhaps the best green mint chocolate chip and rum raisin I've ever had) and an Italian ice.

Another stop was at the Parachute Jump, a now defunct amusement ride. Twelve arms atop the 262-foot-tall steel structure each supported a parachute, lift rope and guide cables. Riders were belted in to a seat below the closed parachute, pulled up to the top and then dropped with only the parachute to save them. The ride closed in the mid-60s.

Even though I kind of felt like a tourist at Coney Island, there is no reason to feel like a tourist there. There's such a mixture of people that it is hard to stand out.

I had another experience

on Sunday morning that was tourist free.

I walked to Fort Greene, which is two neighborhoods to the east of Brooklyn Heights, for a flea market at Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School.

The flea market was recommended to me by one of my readers and after reading The New York Times' review, I decided to make a journey there and finally made time for it.

This flea market isn't heavy on the fleas. In addition to lots of vintage articles, there's also new clothing, arts and crafts, and food. I was prepared to purchase some delicious treats, but I wasn't hungry and was too hot to try anything.

Instead, I came home with a new pair of vintage sunglasses and a typewriter.

I've really enjoyed these off-the-beaten path experiences. They make the city a little more human and personal. I hope they continue.

— Respond to Alison at
thenews@bgnews.com.

Beating the summer heat, Lego-style



Levi Joseph Wonder
Columnist

"Legos allow me to give a physical existence to the things I enjoy (day) dreaming about all of the time."

I'm looking forward to doing a number of activities during my 12-day respite from classes after this summer session is over.

But, although bicycle rides, band practice, hanging out with friends and playing video games for dangerously excessive periods of time may top the list of things I so desperately want to engage in, chief among them involves nothing more than deafeningly loud music, my secluded room in the basement and a metric ton of little interlocking multicolored plastic blocks.

That's right: I'm hankering for some extreme Lego building.

Every once in a grand while, my innate fascination with Lego bricks is awakened from its dormant slumber in order to drive me to build (and afterwards, violently deconstruct) all manner of brick-based creations.

And that's just an example of a mild manifestation of my sporadically occurring addiction to Lego building.

When I go into "hardcore mode," I go all-out to make Lego creations inspired by some of my favorite things: space faring battlecruisers, futuristic cities, hi-tech automobiles, space stations, mining facilities, lunar bases and interplanetary fortresses all appear as Lego-fied products of my science fiction-fueled mind.

So why am I writing this column about Legos?

Because I'm incredibly pumped about going home so I can crank up some Slayer and build a small armada of Lego battleships and siege frigates capable of completely razing the surface of a Class-M Lego planet.

Ooops. Don't forget the Lego frigates and cruisers. They're very important for support roles.

Plus, building things from Legos is an excellent stress reliever. Spending four or five hours (that's a short day for me) cranking away on those little plastic pieces allows me to vent and create some neat little creations in the process.

But the real stress relief comes from the culmination of my Lego fleets in a final battle of awesome proportions.

'Cuz that's when stuff starts blowing up.

When 50 Lego ships engage another 50 Lego ships on the verge of a rift in dimensional space, and they're all armed to the teeth with bristling laser batteries, antimatter-compression bombs, shield-piercing attack rockets and squadrons of strikecraft billowing out of the docking bays of the dreadnought-class carriers stationed at the

rear of a battle fleet, things get messy.

At this point, I'm making engine thrust noises with my throat, I'm yelling the frenzied commands which the generals on the capital ships are relaying to one another amidst the chaos, and I'm launching sorties, missiles, bombs, laser bolts, and pieces of space debris at the fleets to simulate a deep-space weapons exchange.

There's nothing more gratifying than building up an entire... thing... of something with the simple intention of breaking into lots of little pieces later on.

Especially when the aforementioned destruction involves Stinger-class strikecraft and 250 mm gauss-cannon blasts.

But there you go: I guess that the true reason I have so much fun whilst digging elbow-deep into the bins of Legos from my not-too-long-ago (and arguably still going) childhood is that Legos give me the capabilities to let my imagination do whatever it wants to do.

Legos allow me to give a physical existence to the things I enjoy (day) dreaming about all of the time.

Yeah, I have dreams about being the captain of the USS Enterprise. So?

It doesn't make me a dork or anything. "Snort."

Besides, moving those little ships around on my bedroom floor reminds me of a strategic game of chess.

It's almost as if I'm creating my own little intergalactic conquest game... all in the secluded confines of my basement room.

After all, I think I deserve a Lego mini vacation after this spectacularly hectic summer session of classes.

A cramped dormroom, a discombobulated and befuddled mind (even more so than usual), and interior sweat-inducing air temperatures are not what I desired for summer.

If I ever decide to take summer classes again, please make sure to hurl a minivan-sized boulder at me as forcefully as possible.

And make sure you yell like Charles Bronson when you're throwing it. That will maximize your scariness and ensure my fleeing of the immediate scene.

So, am I gonna get some cake now, or what?

I want some cake.

— Respond to Levi at
thenews@bgnews.com.



MICHAEL WEIGMAN | THE BG NEWS

Training and Wisdom

CONRAD PRITSCHER | COLUMNIST

"Without measures we cannot define."

What results from having been primarily trained in clearly defined skills as opposed to being generally educated for self-direction? We know what training in a specific skill is but very few courses have had the stated goal of making students wiser. Researchers reported in the American Psychologist that when we are wise, we use knowledge for the well being of oneself and others.

Baltes and Staudinger, who report on the Berlin Wisdom Paradigm, state: "Wisdom addresses important and difficult questions and strategies about the conduct and meaning of life." One suggested strategy (their paradigm does not mention) to help one become wise is: increase the tendency to allow events to happen, rather than make them happen.

At first glance, allowing events to happen, rather than making them happen, appears to be counter-productive for

getting good grades. The Berlin Wisdom Paradigm mentions that uncertainties and the limits of knowledge need to be studied in order to be wise. The limits of knowledge and uncertainties rarely are given attention in courses which primarily "train" as opposed to "educate."

The paradigm mentions, "an orchestration of knowledge and virtues" which is a synergy of character and mind is what wisdom involves. (Einstein thought "character" was a most important quality for scientists.) The paradigm also mentions that "knowledge with extraordinary scope, depth, measure and balance," is needed for wisdom. Some training is needed but "training," as opposed to "education," has been excessive and is often coercive. Grades continue to be more important than learning.

A reason for courses not dealing with developing wisdom is

because there is no common measured agreement regarding what is wisdom or wise behavior. Since we do not have agreed measures for balance, extraordinary scope of knowledge etc., we do not give wisdom much concern yet we can notice wisdom and its lack.

Without measures we cannot define. When we cannot define something, western thinking holds we are stupid about it. This may be one of the mistakes western thinking has made since eastern thinking more easily allows one to know more than one can tell. Eastern thinking never made the mistake of separating philosophy and poetry as western thinking did.

Do not blame your professors for primarily training you, rather than primarily educating you, for they too have been primarily trained. Our training has included the avoidance of uncertainty. The world famous

physicist, Sir Arthur Eddington, said: "It is a primitive form of thought that things either exist or do not exist." Uncertainty surrounds us, but we avoid it. Free schools avoid it less.

Schools and universities could profitably seek to eliminate pressure and stress that arise from placing expectations on students to acquire the accepted practices and mindsets of present day society. Free schools eliminate that pressure.

Students personal development, and wisdom of the Berlin Wisdom Paradigm type is a major goal of Free Schools so that each student can become a self-directing, independent thinker and learner. Each student and staff member has an equal voice in decisions affecting the running of a free school. (Free schools charge tuition but free student's minds and bodies.)

ONLINE: Read the rest this column
online at www.bgnews.com.

THE BG NEWS

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The BG News Submission Policy

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

are generally to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS are generally longer pieces between 400 and 700 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area. Two submissions per month maximum.

POLICIES: Letters to the Editor

and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS

as an attachment to thenews@bgnews.com with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." All submissions are subject to review and editing for length and clarity before printing. The editor may change the headlines to submitted columns and letters at his or her discretion.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the view of The BG News.

SIDELINES



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Former Oregon point guard joins Falcons

Tamika Nurse, a 5'8" point guard from Hamilton, Ontario will be joining the Falcons for the 2008-09 season.

Nurse, who played three seasons at Oregon, will be required to sit out the upcoming season due to NCAA transfer rules. She will fulfill her final year of eligibility during the 2009-10 season.

Nurse averaged 6.7 points per game and has over 200 career assists. She started 48 games and averaged 30 minutes a game for Oregon.

Nurse's mother, Raquel McNabb, also played under Falcon head coach, Curt Miller during his coaching stint at Syracuse.

BASEBALL

Atkinson earns summer All-Star honors

Kyle Atkinson, a pitcher for the Falcons, was selected to play in the 2008 Southwest Ohio All-Star game on Wednesday, July 23, 2008, at Foundation Field in Hamilton, Ohio.

Atkinson has spent his summer playing for the Ohio Heat Baseball Organization's summer college squad. He is currently holding a 4-0 record and an era of 3.79. He has also recorded 31 strikeouts in 26.1 innings.

Atkinson is the fifth Falcon this summer to earn All-Star honors. He joins Chris Gacom, Dusty Hawk, Ryan Schlatter and Dennis Vaughn as the other Falcons to receive the All-Star vote.

ATHLETICS

Wood County Hospital continues support for Falcon Athletics with x-ray unity donation

Wood County Hospital has donated a C-Arm FluoroScan x-ray unit to the BGSU Athletic Department. The Sebo Athletic Center will house the \$15,000 x-ray unit.

This donation follows the hospital's recent sponsorship expansion that included naming rights to the Stadium Club at Doyt Perry Stadium.

Wood County Hospital is a private, not-for-profit general acute care facility founded in 1951 and named in honor of the people of Wood County.

Coach's corner with Fred Thompson

By John Lopez
Reporter



Fred Thompson
Men's Soccer Coach

This week the BG News sits down with Men's Soccer Coach Fred Thompson.

Q: With a more experienced team this year, what are your expectations for the upcoming season?

A: We are definitely excited, we've been hinting for a few years now and last year was first year in four that we've had players from each class. Experience should play a factor in our success.

Q: Why is soccer having such a hard time catching on as a mainstream American sport?

A: I believe soccer is an international sport that America is catching up on. Soccer's come along way in America, many kids play at a young age, but the sport is having a difficult time catching on at the professional level.

Q: How do you facilitate all of the international players on the team?

A: We have a great structure set up for our international players; it can be difficult sometimes for student athletes to come from a different country. There is definitely an adjustment period, but the athletic department has done a good job setting up supports for freshmen and international players.

Q: How important is Jacob Lawrence to the team's midfield and attack?

A: He is very important. Jacob has a big body and is great in the

air. He may not be the quintessential athlete but he gets the job done.

Q: The team's home form was solid last year but the road was a different story. What can the team do to win more road games?

A: In any sport it is hard to win on the road, whether it's the travel, the away fans or any other factor. With an experienced team and good defense I expect us to perform well on the road this year.

Q: How can fans play a role at a soccer game?

A: Soccer is great because it gives the fans an open forum to express their creativity and passion for their team. Turn on an international soccer match and you will find fans with their faces painted beating drums and chanting song. It would be great to see something like that here on campus when we open up play on August 23.

President Bush gives US Olympians a rousing send-off

By Jennifer Loven
The Associated Press



RON EDMONDS / AP PHOTO

ALL FOR ONE: President Bush talks with U.S. Olympic Softball pitcher Jennie Finch, in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington, Monday, July 21, 2008, during an event honoring the 2008 United States Summer Olympic Team.

WASHINGTON — President Bush gave U.S. Olympians a rousing White House send-off to next month's games in Beijing, urging them Monday to "compete swifter, higher and stronger" but also be mindful they will be "ambassadors of liberty" to the people of China and elsewhere.

Bush is attending the opening ceremonies and the first few days of the Aug. 8-24 games. Standing in the Rose Garden with about two dozen athletes who will compete in the Beijing Olympics and the corresponding Paralympics there in September, Bush said he is "fired up" to watch some of the competition.

"I can't wait to salute our athletes, and I can't wait to share in the joy of your triumphs," he said.

Human rights groups had urged Bush to boycott the opening ceremonies to oppose China's crack-down on protesters in Tibet. The Bush administration argues that the Olympics are a sporting event not to be politicized, and that the president will raise human and religious rights with Chinese officials in the appropriate context.

But while talking to the athletes about their responsibilities in Beijing, Bush had a subtle message for China itself.

"You will convey our nation's most cherished values," the president said. "As ambassadors of liberty, you will represent America's love for freedom and our regard for human rights and human dignity ... to other athletes and to the people of China."

Bush beamed with pride at Team USA.

"We send you off with con-

gratulations on the success you have already achieved, and on the accomplishments we know will be yours in Beijing," he said. "We're looking forward to rooting for you in Beijing."

The president and his wife, Laura, also held a White House dinner in the evening to honor current and previous U.S. Olympians.

"You're not going to be alone in Beijing," Bush said as he toasted the athletes. "Because you're going to be accompanied by the hopes and pride of millions of Americans."

Bush said the Olympics are "an opportunity to demonstrate the strength of the human spirit."

He cited the 1972 Olympics when people gathered in Munich to honor the 11 Israeli athletes who were killed by Palestinian gunmen

and the 2002 games in Salt Lake City when an American flag recovered from the World Trade Center "displayed to the world the resolve and resilience of our country."

He then wished the athletes luck, endurance and victory.

Among those attending alongside officials from the Bush administration and the U.S. Olympic Committee was track and field gold medalist Jackie Joyner-Kersey.

The menu was not a low-cal affair, with pea soup with duck pastrami, cheese puffs, crispy black sea bass, butter beans, salad and a dessert called the "Olympic Torch," a dark chocolate tart with raspberries and a blown-sugar Olympic flame.

The bluegrass band Seldom Scene was the chosen entertainment.

Tour de France nearing finale

By Jamey Keaten
The Associated Press

JAUSIERS, France — Frank Schleck of Luxembourg kept the yellow jersey in the Tour de France on yesterday, with riders pushing themselves through the Alps as cycling's showcase race left Italy and returned to France.

French rider Cyril Dessel won the 16th stage for his first stage victory in this race. He led a breakaway group of four riders to a downhill finish, completing the 98-mile trip from Cuneo, Italy.

"It makes me incredibly happy," said Dessel, who is no threat to Schleck at more than 32 minutes behind. "The tactic was to try to join a breakaway."

Schleck finished 1 minute, 28 seconds after Dessel, but didn't lose any time to his main title rivals. Bernhard Kohl of Austria is second overall, seven seconds behind, and Cadel Evans of Australia is third, eight seconds back. Carlos Sastre, a CSC teammate of Schleck, is fourth, 49 seconds behind.

"It was hard today. I wasn't able to attack," Schleck said. "I think everybody was pushing the limit."

Riders face a third ride in the Alps today — the hardest stage this year — before two mostly flat rides followed by Saturday's crucial time trial. The race ends Sunday in Paris.

Schleck and Evans made time on another pre-race favorite, Denis Menchov of Russia. He slipped to fifth place, 1:13 back, after coming into the stage 38 seconds behind, in fourth place.

U.S. rider Christian Vande Velde lost even more ground, falling to sixth place, 3:15 behind. He started the ride in fifth place, 39 seconds behind Schleck.

The stage took riders along two climbs beyond classification: the 13-mile Lombarde pass and the 16-mile La Bonette-Restefond pass.

The 17th stage today, is a 131-mile ride featuring the Galibier and Croix de Fer passes and a finish up the L'Alpe d'Huez — all three climbs are beyond classification.

THE BG NEWS SUDOKU

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5	8	4	1	2	6	9	3	7
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6	2	5	9	1	4	7	8	3
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Allison Bratnick, PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

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Tuesday, July 29
Mandolin playing Mark Matusoff kicks off the comedy block along with feature act, Chris Hegedus.
9 p.m.
Admission \$5 (\$3 with student ID)

GET OUTTA TOWN: TOLEDO AREA

Earth, Wind & Fire

Wednesday, July 23
The popular funk band of the 70's is performing at the Toledo Zoo.
7:30 p.m.
Tickets: \$55 or \$37.50
(419) 241-2221 for info.

Great Maumee River Dragon Boat Festival

Saturday, July 26
International Park, Toledo
Hong Kong style boats, Chinese calligraphy, face painting and kite flying showcase the art of the Chinese culture.
(419) 242-2122 for more info and event times.

ELSEWHERE

Wauseon

Thursday, July 24 - Saturday, July 26
The Wauseon Homecoming 3-day festival starts with a children's parade, queen pageant, dunk tanks and live performances. The festival concludes with a Pontiac G-6 Sedan raffle.
5 p.m. to midnight
\$22 for all day ride pass

Van Wert

Sunday, July 27
The Stadium Park Summer Music Series continues with the Fort Wayne Community Band.
6 p.m.
Admission is free.

40th Annual Hamler Summerfest

Friday, July 25 - Sunday, July 27
The town of Hamler is celebrating German heritage with Polka music and traditional German food and dancing.
Admission \$7/day or \$5 Sunday, 3-day-pass \$15

THEY SAID IT

"Such is an actor's life. We must ride the waves of every film, barfing occasionally, yet maintain our dignity, even as the bulk of our Herculean efforts are keel-hauled before our very eyes."

—Michael Caine

The 'Dark Knight' complex



AP FILE PHOTO

Ledger shines as Joker; 'Dark Knight' is the movie of the summer

By Aaron Helfferich
Film Critic

If we look back to 2005, we may remember the final moments of "Batman Begins" speaking of escalation. When Lt. Gordon raised questions to Batman about the criminals' counteraction to the appearance of a crime-fighting caped crusader, another voice was also speaking. Hidden underneath the fears of his characters, director Christopher Nolan was promising a heightened continuation of his newly established "Batman" franchise.

Now, the full realization of Nolan's promise assaults movie-going audiences in the form of Batman's most legendary nemesis, the Joker. As one of the crucial performances of "The Dark Knight," the late Heath Ledger embodies the Joker with terrifying realism and praiseworthy perfection. As a performance that was worthy of an Oscar far before the actor's untimely death, the Joker is one of the many aspects of "The Dark Knight" working for an unprecedented greatness and acceptance of a new generation of superhero films.

In countless ways, "The Dark Knight" is much more than just a superhero film, or even a "Batman" film. As a sophisticated crime drama with a stellar lineup of multi-layered characters, "The Dark Knight" tells the story of how the seemingly ill-fated Gotham City is desperately trying to clean their streets of organized crime. Now, instead of Batman reigning as the sole hero, a team of new and familiar faces emerge to assist Batman in his own organized combat to crime.

Having raised the eyes of Batman and his trusted ally Lt. Jim Gordon (Gary Oldman), Gotham's new district attorney, Harvey Dent (Aaron Eckhart) begins his rise to power over the fearing criminals of Gotham. However, hoping to put a damper on his efforts is a maniac bank robber dressing like a demonic clown calling himself the Joker. By making himself an icon for the criminal underworld much like Batman did for Gotham, the Joker fuses a connection with Batman deep within the conflicting ideals of these iconic characters. Now, the confrontations between Batman and the Joker display as powerful as DeNiro facing Pacino for the first time in the crime drama, "Heat"; a film Nolan claims was high inspiration for "The Dark Knight."

While the Joker may seem to be the focus of "The Dark Knight's" ideas, the stake through the heart of the film is Harvey Dent. Using Dent along with a solid performance by Aaron Eckhart, Christopher Nolan infuses his film with a terrifying message of how even the greatest of heroes can be consumed by the consequences of their intentions. With Dent giving "The Dark Knight" its visual poetry, Nolan also raises questions that even shake the very foundations of our masked hero. As Dent claims early within the film, "You either die a hero, or live long enough to see yourself become the villain." Inevitably, when Dent moves, the rest of the film turns with him.

With "The Dark Knight" being so rich in cinematic and poetic elements, Christopher Nolan has conducted a symphony orchestra in which all instruments play their own individual masterpieces.

'THE DARK KNIGHT' GRADE: A

RATED: Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and some menace.

STARRING: Christian Bale, Heath Ledger, Aaron Eckhart, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Gary Oldman, Morgan Freeman, and Michael Caine.

DIRECTOR: Christopher Nolan

With every entity firing on all cylinders, "The Dark Knight" is the movie of the summer, the crime saga of the decade and the greatest superhero film since Richard Donner's "Superman" of 1978. It's unlikely you'll get another chance in the near future to witness a mastery of character, art and storytelling as magnificent as this.



AP FILE PHOTO

'Dark Knight' sets weekend record with \$155.34 million

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Batman has sent Spidey packing as king of Hollywood's box-office superheroes. "The Dark Knight" took in a record \$155.34 million in its first weekend, topping the previous best of \$151.1 million for "Spider-Man 3" in May 2007 and pacing Hollywood to its biggest weekend ever, according to studio estimates Sunday.

"We knew it would be big, but we never expected to dominate the marketplace like we did," said Dan Fellman, head of distribution for Warner Bros., which released "The Dark Knight." The movie should shoot past the \$200 million mark by the end of the week, he said.

Hollywood set an overall revenue record of \$253 million for a three-day weekend, beating the \$218.4 million haul over the weekend of July 7, 2006, according to box-office tracker Media By Numbers.

"This weekend is such a juggernaut," said Nikki Rocco, head of distribution for Universal, whose musical "Mamma Mia!" debuted at No. 2 with \$27.6 million.

Factoring in higher admission prices, "Spider-Man 3" may have sold slightly more tickets than "The Dark Knight."

At 2007's average price of \$6.88, "Spider-Man 3" sold 21.96 million tickets over opening weekend. Media By Numbers estimates today's aver-

The many pasts of Batman

Compiled by Lori Weber



Lewis Wilson
1943

The first on-screen appearance of the Caped Crusader. Batman and Robin were portrayed as FBI agents.



Batman 1943



Adam West
1966 - 1968

One of the most memorable Batmans, West starred in the short-run series and the spin-off movie in this campy classic.



"Batman" 1966 - 1968



Michael Keaton
1989 - 1992

Keaton played the Bat in Black twice, and was outshined by Jack Nicholson's "Joker" in the first, and Michelle Pfeiffer's "Catwoman" in the second.



"Batman," 1989
"Batman Returns," 1992



Val Kilmer
1995

Kilmer succeeded Keaton in a film with strangely-neon colored background, and campy performances.



"Batman Forever," 1995



George Clooney
1997

Despite a great actor playing Batman, the franchise almost died after "Batman & Robin." Clooney became known as "The Man Who Killed Batman."



"Batman & Robin," 1997



Christian Bale
2005 - Present

Bale brought back Batman with a dark new flair. The current film, "The Dark Knight," broke box office records with \$155.34 million in its first weekend.



"Batman Begins," 2005
"The Dark Knight," 2008

The evolution of the Joker

Compiled by Lori Weber



Cesar Romero
1966-68

Romero set the bar for how the Joker should act, as well as the signature fashion ensemble. Because Romero refused to shave his signature mustache, makeup teams would spend hours covering it up.



Jack Nicholson
1989

Nicholson. What else has to be said. He put "smooth" in the Joker's dictionary. Even with the neon clothes, Nicholson pulled off a versatile menace that was still popular.



Mark Hamill
1992

Hamill provided the voice for Joker in the animated series. His maniacal laughter focused on the true insanity of the character. The force, and face, are strong with this one.



Heath Ledger
2008

For years, the concept of Joker was still Nicholson's branding. However, director Christopher Nolan was aiming at something a bit more sinister. Ledger's adaptation is one to fear. There is no compassion or empathy for this version. While the green hair and signature red smile are there, it's the warped toxicity that brandishes total insanity.



"The Dark Knight," 2008



PHOTO FROM YAHOO! MOVIES

'Mamma Mia!' What a disaster!

By Aaron Helfferich
Film Critic

It has been considered by many to be one of the most celebrated Broadway musicals. At the same time, its music reaches far beyond the limits of its stage performance by utilizing one of the most well known bands of a particular generation. With the iconic music of the legendary band ABBA, "Mamma Mia!" has touched audiences with its energetic characters and unique soundtrack choices. Now, as it's given its transfer to film, not much from the original Broadway show has been changed.

By filming among the magnificent backdrop of Greece, the colorful characters of "Mamma Mia!" and their enriched environment finally garner the full spectrum of the story. Captured by the beauty and romance of her country, Sophie (Amanda Seyfried), is finally inching closer to her wedding day. Still working for her mother, Donna (Meryl Streep), Sophie lives out her routine days at the family's hillside and beach front hotel. However, nothing about her past is routine. Hoping to discover her true identity, she invites three men she's never met before, all with the possibility of being her long lost father. Much to her dismay, Donna, trying to forget her frenzied past, is unaware of the arrival of her three past loves.

With an ideal sense of character, the producers of the film breathe life into these three men by appropriately casting Colin Firth, Stellan Skarsgard and Pierce Brosnan. At first

'MAMMA MIA!'
GRADE: C

RATED: Rated PG-13 for some sex-related comments.

STARRING: Amanda Seyfried, Meryl Streep, Pierce Brosnan, Colin Firth, and Dominic Cooper.

DIRECTOR: Phyllida Lloyd

their on screen charisma may seem limitless, but when they open their mouths to belt out the lyrics to the classic songs, their presence goes from enjoyable to downright awkward. While the only one who seems to be holding her own is Meryl Streep, the surrounding cast including the overly energetic Amanda Seyfried shows "Mamma Mia!" for anything but its true colors.

On a Broadway play it may be necessary for the performers to show as much enthusiasm as possible when expressing the emotions of their characters for the sake of the audience in the final rows. The same does not apply to film. Throughout most of the film, the actors seem to be just as energetic, if not more, than their Broadway counterparts.

By refusing to substantially transfer these and many other qualities of "Mamma Mia!" for the medium of film, many scenes would have been better off being filmed back on a soundstage as they were originally conceived. While it may be fun to witness a classic story unfold within a new light, the failure to update this material in a method that is reasonable for filming makes it seem overwhelming and pointless.

dent of Media By Numbers. "A big part of that was the Heath Ledger mystique and a phenomenal performance that absolutely deserves the excitement surrounding it."

RECORD

From Page 6

age movie prices at \$7.08, which means "The Dark Knight" would have sold 21.94 million tickets.

Revenue totals for "The Dark Knight" could change when final numbers are released Monday.

The movie's release was preceded by months of buzz and speculation over the performance of the late Heath Ledger as the Joker, Batman's nemesis. Ledger, who died in January from an accidental prescription-drug overdose, played the Joker as a demonic presence, his performance prompting predictions that the role might earn him a posthumous Academy Award nomination.

"The average opening gross of the last five 'Batman' movies is \$47 million. This tripled that, and for a reason," said Paul Dergarabedian, presi-

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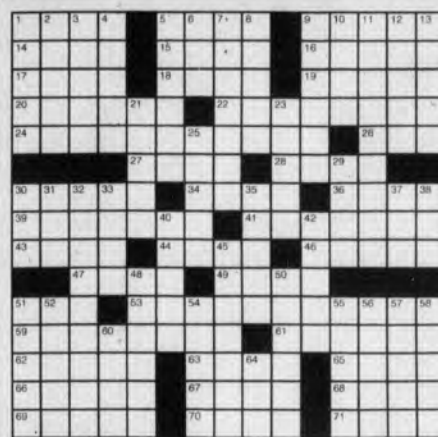
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8 Ashcan School painter John
9 After starter?
10 River to the Baltic
11 Manly mountains?
12 Bring together
13 Glenn Close movie
21 Cowpuncher contest
23 Sty dwellers
25 Relish
29 Bistro
30 Sen. Kennedy
31 Ms. Gardner
32 Girl's chocolate loc.?
33 Turow book
35 "Ghosts" playwright
37 Linguistic suffix
38 Ave. crossers
40 Called strikes, for short
- 42 Comic/panelist Paul
45 Put an end to
48 Somme port
50 Goes along with
51 How some stocks sell
52 Discontinue
54 Divided nation
55 Dis-lodge?
56 Kurt Weill's Lotte
57 Mongolian invader
58 Like a hermit
60 Require
64 Reb outfit

ACROSS

- 1 Country mail rtes.
5 Sty dwellers
9 Dull
14 Writer Ambler
15 Spoken
16 Minneapolis suburb
17 Scorch
18 Mexican cash
19 Updated record release
20 Faculty position guarantee
22 Italian car
24 Feminine city on Lake Mich.?
26 Singer Brenda
27 ex machina
28 Early Peruvian
30 Sierra Nevada lake
34 Coating
36 Those in favor
39 End up equal
41 Northern Ireland capital
43 Have the nerve
44 Extinct birds

- 46 Positive replies
47 Smacking blow
49 Noggin
51 German exclamation
53 Self-centered rice-growing region?
59 Poster boy
61 Tell
62 Check recipient
63 Pilaf base
65 "Come ___ my parlor..."
66 Quaking tree
67 Caesar's being
68 Blush green
69 Enjoys a book
70 Cries of discovery
71 Biblical weed

ANSWERS



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